

First Congregational United Church of Christ,
Ypsilanti, MI
"Follow Me"



http://33.media.tumblr.com/5c9c624280f22fc58a26293c770c91de/tumblr_inline_ned665FUkB1qkqzlv.jpg

No matter who you are or where you are
on life's journey, you're welcome here.

January 3, 2016 10:00 am

Second Sunday after Christmas



*An open and affirming community
committed to peace and justice*

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:

NCH (Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")
Sing! (Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)
ES (Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

*All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak
with the Pastor or any member of the Community.*

Prelude

Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn**

"Sing a Different Song"

150 NCH - Steve McGhee

Welcome

Ivan Harner

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.

We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

****Please rise in body or spirit as you are able***

Announcements

Ivan Harner

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ring the Bell

***Anthem**

"Christ Child"

FCC Choir

Call to Worship (Unison)

Ivan Harner

From near and far, we come to worship. Amid our joys and sorrows, we come to praise. Praise be to you, O God, for your protecting love and freeing grace. Shine your love upon us, that we may know your truth and receive it into our lives. Amen. — Adapted From “Led by Love”, Lavon Bayler

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament	Isaiah 40:3-5	Ivan Harner
Hymn	“Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child”	136 NCH
Children's Time	<i>children are invited to come forward</i>	
New Testament	John 1:1-23	Carol Hall
Sermon	“The Final Guests”	Carol Hall
*Hymn	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”	129 NCH

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People	Carol Hall
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*All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time.
Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Traditional Version	Carol Hall
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When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Our Father, our Mother who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kindom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison)

Carol Hall

In these moments, we are challenged, not just to reach for a contribution, but to reorder our lives. Will we be enlightened by our gifts? Who will receive the Word because we are faithful? How will the world be changed by our investment in this community of faith? Amen.

— Adapted from “Led by Love”, Lavon Bayler

Offertory

Steve McGhee

***Doxology**

“Take My Gifts”

562 NCH

*Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!*

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

Ivan Harner

Your goodness, O God, has satisfied us with abundance beyond our deserving. May our individual efforts and the combined outreach we accomplish together, turn mourning into joy; hopelessness into purposeful living. Amen.

— Adapted from “Led by Love”, Lavon Bayler

COMMUNING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

***Hymn of Blessing**

“Come to the Table of Grace”

112 SING

Communion Service

Carol Hall

Communion will be served by intinction in our chairs.
All are Welcome at the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Carol Hall

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure**

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

126 NCH

*Benediction

Carol Hall

One: Go out to fulfill your destiny as children of God.
Let your hope be in Christ and live as disciples.

Many: **We will live in the true light of Jesus Christ.**
We are listening for God's will for our lives.
Praise to God for making us instruments of peace!
Amen. — Adapted From "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

Postlude

Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace

Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.

Open and Affirming Covenant of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti.

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions.

All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe and nurturing community of faith.

We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

First Congregational United Church of Christ

PO Box 980413

218 North Adams Street

Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

734-482-6980

website: www.ypsiucc.com



God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Our Volunteers	Today: Jan 3 rd	Next Sunday: Jan 10 th
Usher	Marty Kleino	Lyle Molter
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Ivan Harner	Kelsie Molter
Worship Set-up	Margaret Harner	Glenda Horvath
Acolyte	Kelsie Molter	Hunter Turner
Friendship Time	Margaret Harner	Glenda Horvath
Sunday School	Melanie Harner	Anne Marie N-T

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next Council meeting will be held tomorrow January 4, 2016 at 4:45 pm. All are welcome.

POTLUCK: There will be a potluck on January 10th after we take down the decorations. There will be a sign-up sheet available or contact Glenda Horvath.

Citrus Fruit Sale 2015-2016: January Shipment Orders are due no later than **January 11th**.

Delivery will be January 21 – 24th

Contact Tad Wysor (734) 483-3761 or Wayne Burling (734) 377-0696 if you have any questions.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

NEW ADDRESS: Lorraine Sayles' new address; Orchard Hills Manor, 2139 Georgetown Blvd., Ann Arbor, 48105. Her phone number is the same as always (734) 483-3849.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's address': *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.ypsiucc.org> Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913>.

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU RE-REGISTERED WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card **MUST** register. **Last Year's registration expires May 1st** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "REGISTER". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.

OUR CHURCH'S MISSIONS

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WICIR>.

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: A coalition of Open and Affirming United Church of Christ churches in Michigan. For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition**, or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website <http://www.mi-onc.org> or on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/>

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.

See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

Today's Cover Art

http://33.media.tumblr.com/5c9c624280f22fc58a26293c770c91de/tumblr_inline_ned665FUkB1qkqzlv.jpg

Tumblr (stylized in its logo as tumblr.) is a microblogging platform and social networking website founded by David Karp and owned by Yahoo! Inc. The service allows users to post multimedia and other content to a short-form blog. Users can follow other users' blogs, as well as make their blogs private.[4][5] Much of the website's features are accessed from the "dashboard" interface, where the option to post content and posts of followed blogs appear.

As of October 1, 2015, Tumblr hosts over 256 million blogs.[2] The company's headquarters is in New York City. Yahoo! announced its intention to acquire Tumblr on May 20, 2013, for approximately \$1.1

billion.[6][7][8][9] The deal closed on June 20, 2013.[10] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tumblr>

Image also found here: <http://globalworship.tumblr.com/post/101491663505/remembering-the-saints-of-all-nations-at-the>

Image also found here: <http://bobkaylor.com/category/theology/>